

**CONFIDENTIAL**OPP/LLB  
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E.O. 12356:N/A

TAGS: MARR, PO

SUBJECT: CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE ON USE OF LAJES

1. THE FOLLOWING IS FROM A WASHINGTON POST STORY BY GEORGE WILSON APPEARING AUGUST 12:

"BY VOICE VOTE, THE PANEL (HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE) REFUSED TO APPROVE MONEY THE PENTAGON HAD REQUESTED TO EN-  
LARGE AIRFIELDS AT RAS BANAS, EGYPT, AND LAJES IN PORTU-  
GAL'S AZORES, TO ACCOMMODATE LARGE AIRCRAFT SUCH AS B-52  
BOMBERS AND GIANT TRANSPORTS.

"THE BOMBERS, UNDER WAR PLANS, WOULD FLY FROM RAS BANAS AND  
POSSIBLE LAJES, ACCORDING TO DEFENSE SOURCES, TO BLUNT ANY  
ATTACK ON PERSIAN GULF OIL FIELDS. . . ."

2. THE GUIDANCE IN PARA 3 BELOW HAS BEEN PREPARED FOR USE  
BY WASHINGTON AGENCIES IN RESPONDING TO INQUIRIES. YOU MAY  
DRAW ON IT AS APPROPRIATE IF ASKED.

3. "THE FY-83 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION PROPOSAL INCLUDED A  
REQUEST FOR FUNDS TO CONSTRUCT POL STORAGE TANKS AT LAJES  
AIR BASE IN THE AZORES. THESE STORAGE TANKS WERE TO BE

USED FOR SUPPORTING TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT. AT THE PRESENT  
TIME, THERE ARE NO PLANS FOR STAGING B-52S THROUGH LAJES  
EN ROUTE TO SOUTHWEST ASIA." SHULTZ  
END OF MESSAGE

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State Dept. review completed

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